

Gate Gardens, S.W.; Major Henry A. F. Magrath, 51st Sikhs, Frontier Force, Kohat, India; Major H. Moore, District Pay Office, Gibraltar; Bertram B. Osmaston (Imperial Forest Service), Port Blair, Andaman Islands; Lt.-Col. Rullion H. Rattray, 22nd Punjab Infantry, Dera Ghazi Khan, Punjab; Baron R. Snouckaert van Schauburg, Neerlangbroek, Holland; Surgeon Charles E. C. Stanford, R.N., B.Sc., M.B., H.M.S. 'Robin,' China Squadron; Edward S. Steward, F.R.C.S., 10 Princes Square, Harrogate; Charles M. Tuke, Chiswick House, Chiswick, W.; Lt.-Commander Robert E. Vaughan, R.N., H.M.S. 'Robin,' China Squadron; Colin West, The Grange, South Norwood Park, S.E.; and Augustus F. Wiener, F.Z.S., 6 Northwick Terrace, Maida Vale, N.W.

Heer Johannes Büttikofer, C.M.Z.S., Director of the Zoological Garden, Rotterdam, and Mons. Sergius A. Buturlin, of Weseenberg, Esthonia, Russia, were elected Foreign Members.

On the motion of Mr. E. Bidwell, seconded by Mr. H. J. Elwes, the following resolution was unanimously passed:—

“That the Committee be requested to consider the advisability of commemorating the Jubilee of the British Ornithologists' Union in 1908, and to report their opinion at the next Annual Meeting.”

After a vote of thanks to the Council of the Zoological Society of London for the use of their rooms had been unanimously agreed to, the Meeting adjourned.

### XXXIII.—Notices of recent Ornithological Publications.

[Continued from p. 387.]

#### 59. *Alfaro on a new Owl from Costa Rica.*

[A new Owl from Costa Rica. By Anastasio Alfaro. Proc. Biol. Soc. Washington, xviii. p. 217.]

*Cryptoglaux ridgwayi* is described by the Director of the Costa Rica National Museum as a new species allied to

*C. acadica*, and is named after Mr. Ridgway, in remembrance of his recent visit to that republic (see above, p. 396). It is from the high mountains of Costa Rica. The type is in the U.S. National Museum.

60. '*Annals of Scottish Natural History.*'

[The Annals of Scottish Natural History. Nos. 57 & 58. January and April 1906.]

Mr. W. Eagle Clarke's account of his residence of five weeks on Fair Isle at the time of the autumn migration forms one of the most interesting papers that has appeared in our contemporary. Fair Isle, situated about halfway between the northernmost of the Orkneys and the extreme south of Shetland, is described as "a surpassingly good station for observations, perhaps second to none in Scotland." We will not enumerate the rarities among the fifty-six species of birds recorded, nor shall we attempt to give any abstract of Mr. Clarke's remarks, which will be found on pp. 4-21 and pp. 69-80. His companion, Mr. Norman B. Kinnear, has a short paper on the mammals of this rarely visited island.

The Ornithological Notes contain, among other interesting matter, corroboration of the hitherto questionable occurrence of the Blackcap in West Ross-shire; also, full confirmation of the breeding of the Pintail Duck in Shetland, about which there had been little moral doubt for some years, though it was not proven absolutely. According to Mr. Clarke, Shetland was visited last autumn by quite a number of Bullfinches belonging to the large North-European and Siberian form known as *Pyrrhula major*. As recorded by Mr. H. W. Robinson, an adult female of *Somateria spectabilis*—far rarer than the male—was obtained off Graemsay, Orkney, on February 21st, and an adult male of *Ædemia perspicillata* was watched inside Stromness Harbour in December.—H. S.

61. '*The Auk.*'

[The Auk. A Quarterly Journal of Ornithology. Vol. xxii. Nos. 1 & 2, January and April 1906.]

A List of the Birds of Louisiana, by Messrs. Beyer, Allison, and Kopman, opens the January number, and as

fifteen pages are devoted to a preliminary sketch, it promises to be of some importance; there is, however, no continuation in April. Dr. Jonathan Dwight, Jr., who was visiting European Museums last year, now contributes an interesting paper on the White-winged Gulls, with a coloured plate of *Larus kumlieni* adult and immature. It will be remembered that this species is about the size of an Iceland Gull, but has some dark markings on the outer primaries, these being uncoloured in the Iceland and Glaucous Gulls. The last has also a "patterned" representative in *L. nelsoni*, of which only the type from Alaska, an adult from the same country, and an immature example from Vancouver were known up to 1897, when another adult was obtained at St. Michael's, Alaska, and one in Lower California. In the North Pacific these two sections are linked by the strongly patterned *L. glaucescens* to the Herring-Gull group. Even in the pattern of the primaries of *L. kumlieni* there is some variation, as is shown by Dr. Dwight's diagrams on p. 40. Mr. H. Lyman Clark's paper on the Feather Tracts of Swifts and Humming-birds is illustrated by two black-and-white plates, and well deserves the attention of students of pterylosis. Mr. W. A. Anthony's Random Notes on the Pacific Coast Gulls and his subsequent Stray Notes from Alaska are examples of very pleasant descriptive writing. Mr. H. J. Bowles, with his List of the Birds of Tacoma, Puget Sound, evokes the interest due to proximity to British Columbia; while Dr. C. H. Townsend's Notes on the Birds of Cape Breton Island bring us actually to British territory, though on the eastern side of America. A paper by Mr. H. O. Jenkins on the Variations in *Dryobates villosus* and its subspecies is illustrated by a map of the distribution and by diagrams of the wing-spotting of the eastern and western forms. Mr. Ruthven Deane (pp. 191-209) contributes the first instalment of a very pleasing correspondence between Audubon and Spencer F. Baird, commencing with a letter written in 1810 by the latter, then a lad of fifteen, to the great ornithologist in his fifty-eighth year. The kindness of the veteran to the beginner, who afterwards became so celebrated, is a highly

attractive feature. Mr. F. W. Carpenter's paper on An Astronomical Determination of the Heights of Birds during Nocturnal Migration revives a subject started by Mr. W. E. D. Scott a quarter of a century ago and not altogether forgotten; the trend of the observations being, so far as they have gone at present, that the maximum height recorded is 2400 feet at the places mentioned. It must be remembered that migration by night is the subject; in the day-time far greater elevations are attained. Among the General Notes are some additional records of the Ruff in America (p. 98); of the Lapwing in Long Island, New York, and also in Newfoundland (p. 221); and the acquisition of an example of *Pelecanus erythrorhynchus* at Liverpool Bay in the Arctic Ocean, in lat. 70° N., being 9° beyond the limit hitherto assigned by Mr. Ridgway. The description of a new form of *Oceanodroma* by Hans Graf von Berlepsch may be noticed; he distinguishes his *O. monorhis chapmani*, of Lower California, from *O. monorhis* (Swinh.), of the Asiatic side of the Pacific.—H. S.

### 62. 'The Avicultural Magazine.'

[Avicultural Magazine. The Journal of the Avicultural Society. New Series. Vol. iv. Nos. 3-5. Jan.-Mar. 1906.]

Two articles are particularly noticeable in these numbers, one by Mr. W. Goodfellow on Mrs. Johnstone's Lorikeet (*Trichoglossus johnstoniae*), a species which he discovered in some numbers on the lofty mountains of Mindanao in the Philippines, and another by Mr. R. Phillipps in continuation of his former account of the Regent-Bird in captivity, wherein he describes the successful rearing of two young, though one of them lived only about a month. Very careful observations were made on the habits of the birds and on their change of plumage, and such exact descriptions must always be of exceptional value.

Mr. A. F. Wiener writes on the respective merits of aviaries and cages, and has called forth a series of letters in reply, while the Secretary invites us all to contribute to the discussion.



Among other items Mr. L. M. Seth-Smith gives an account of a visit to Uganda, Dr. Butler discourses on the family *Icteridæ* and on the genus *Phonipara*, Mr. Trevor-Battye records his successful breeding of *Callipepla squamata*, and Mr. Haagner reports on a hybrid between *Serinus canicollis* and *Alario alario*.

### 63. Balducci on the Iris of *Athene chiaradiæ*.

[Osservazioni e considerazioni nella pigmentazione del iride dell'*Athene chiaradiæ*. Per il Dott. Enrico Balducci. Monit. Zool. Ital. xvi. No. 9 (Firenze, 1905), p. 208.]

The famous "*Athene chiaradiæ*," described and figured by Prof. Giglioli in this Journal in 1902, has given rise to much discussion and to many comments. In the present paper the structure of its iris is described and figured, and compared with that of *Athene noctua*. Several questions connected with the origin of the form are also discussed. But it does not appear that much progress has been made in determining how or why this strange "sport," if it may be so called, has deviated from the typical form.

### 64. Bangs on new American Subspecies.

[Description of Seven new Subspecies of American Birds. By Outram Bangs. Proc. Biol. Soc. Washington, xviii. p. 151.]

The subspecies described as new are *Crypturus soui mustelinus* from Santa Marta, *Scardafella inca dialucos* from Honduras and Nicaragua, *Claravis pretiosa livida* from Colombia, *Geotrygon martinica digressa* from Guadeloupe, *Dacnis cayana callaina* from Chiriqui, *Callospiza lavinia cara* from Honduras, and *Phænicothraupis rubica confinis* from Honduras.

*Calospiza lavinia cara*, established on two specimens only, is "similar in colour" to the typical form, but has a "much larger and more slender bill" (!).

### 65. Bangs on *Icterus gualanensis*.

[What is *Icterus gualanensis* Underwood? By Outram Bangs. Proc. Biol. Soc. Washington, xviii. p. 167.]

From information acquired through Mr. G. S. Miller, Jr.,

Mr. Bangs comes to the conclusion that this supposed species, of which only one example is known, is probably a "freak" or "sport" of *Icterus giraudi*.

66. *Bangs on the Races of Chlorophanes.*

[The Name of the Panama Green Honey-Creeper. By Outram Bangs. Proc. Biol. Soc. Washington, xviii. p. 185.]

It is shown that the race of *Chlorophanes spiza* of Panama is *C. s. exsul* and not *C. s. guatemalensis*.

67. *Bangs on the Cuban Crab-Hawk.*

[The Cuban Crab-Hawk, *Urubitinga gundlachi* (Cabanis). By Outram Bangs. Auk, xxii. p. 307.]

Mr. Bangs maintains that the Cuban representative of *Urubitinga anthracina* is quite a distinct species, and restores to it the name *gundlachi* originally applied to it by Cabanis. He also gives details as to its nesting and eggs.

68. *Beebe on the Bird-life of Mexico.*

[Two Bird-lovers in Mexico. By C. William Beebe. London: Constable & Co. 1 vol. 8vo. Pp. 408.]

Mr. Beebe, the Curator of Ornithology in the Zoological Park of New York, passed the winter of 1903-4 in the States of Jalisco and Colima in South-western Mexico. Accompanied by his wife, who is evidently quite as much a "Bird-lover" as himself, he landed from a steamer at Vera Cruz on Christmas Day, 1903, and arrived at Guadalajara by rail a week later. Hence three "camping-trips" were made in the vicinity of the Volcano of Colima, and the Pacific was visited at the harbour of Manzanillo. Although the birds of this part of Mexico are well-known *by their skins*, very few field-notes have as yet been written on them. Mr. Beebe's most interesting narrative is full of information throughout its course, while details are also given of other natural objects observed, both zoological and botanical. The numerous text-figures, mostly very good in execution, are an additional attraction to the work, which, we are sure, will attain a wide circle of appreciation among those who

love birds in America. To us in England, of course, the Mexican forms of bird-life are less familiar, but the writer's lively descriptions of his adventures amongst them will be much appreciated by his brother ornithologists. Mr. Beebe, wisely perhaps, dispenses altogether with the scientific names of the birds mentioned in his narrative. But he calls them by English names, which in many cases, in Europe at least, are less intelligible than their Latin equivalents. Who, for example, would know that a "Varied Bunting" meant *Cyanospiza versicolor*, or a "Giraud Flycatcher" *Myiozetetes similis*? It is true that there is a systematically arranged "Appendix" with both the English and Latin names of each bird, which enables the patient reader to solve some of these enigmas, but the task is by no means easy.

The concluding chapter by Mrs. Beebe on "How we did it" is not one of the least amusing parts of the work. The advice given to future explorers of the wilds of Mexico is, no doubt, excellent. We are not surprised to learn that the simple countrymen were much impressed when they saw the "Señorita" riding along astride with a divided skirt! But that is, no doubt, the proper costume out-of-doors for a lady travelling in Mexico.

69. *Bianchi on the Birds of Prjevalski's Journeys in Central Asia.*

[Wissenschaftliche Resultate der von N. M. Prjewalski nach Central-Asien unternommen Reisen. Auf Kosten einer von seiner kaiserlichen Hoheit dem Grossfürsten-Thronfolger Nikolai Alexandrowitsch gespendeten Summe herausgegeben von der kaiserlichen Akademie der Wissenschaften. Zoologischer Theil. Band II. Vögel. Bearbeitet von V. Bianchi. Lief. 4. Folio. St. Petersburg, 1905.]

We are much pleased to find that Prof. Bianchi has taken up the task of completing the account of the important collections of birds made by Prjevalski during his four celebrated expeditions in Central Asia. The first three parts were prepared by Herr Pleske (see 'Ibis,' 1890, p. 256, and 1895, p. 286). Since 1894 no further instalments have been issued, but we have now before us the fourth part

written by Prof. Bianchi, and are informed that others are likely to follow shortly. The present section is mainly devoted to the Larks, a very difficult group to handle satisfactorily. The following new subspecies are described:—*Otocorys brandli montana*, *O. b. przewalskii*, and *O. elwesi khamensis*. The text is written in Russian and German. The following species are well figured:—Plate vii. *Acredula calva*, *Cyanistes berezowskii*; Plate x. *Ægithalus stoliczkae*, *Budytes leucocephala*.

#### 70. Buller's 'Supplement to the Birds of New Zealand.'

[Supplement to the Birds of New Zealand. By Sir Walter Lawry Buller, K.C.M.G. Vol. i. 1905; vol. ii. 1906. 4to. 200 pp.; twelve plates. Published for the Subscribers by the Author. Price £6 6s. net.]

Seventeen years have elapsed since the publication of the 'Birds of New Zealand,' and Sir Walter Buller has rightly judged that it is time to summarize the additions that have been made to our knowledge of the subject since that important work was completed. Instead of bringing out a third edition, the author has thought it better to prepare a Supplement of the same style and appearance, and to incorporate in it all the new information which he has obtained, together with coloured illustrations of the species not figured in the former volumes. In so doing he has resolved to follow the new arrangement of Dr. Bowdler Sharpe's 'Hand-list,' so that he begins with the lowest and ends with the highest forms. The first volume of the Supplement is now published, and the second, we are informed, is nearly ready for issue.

Besides the Preface and the Introduction, the first volume of the Supplement, commencing with the Kiwis, contains an account of all the birds of New Zealand in the order of the 'Hand-list' up to the end of the Waders. Five coloured plates drawn by Keulemans represent *Apteryx hausti*, *Megapodius pritchardi*, *Cabalus modestus*, *Æstrelata cervicalis*, and the heads of *Diomedea bulleri* and *D. salvini*.

It should be noted that *all* the known species of New-Zealand birds are mentioned in the Supplement, so that it

contains a complete list of the species of the Maorian Ornis at present known to us.

71. *Christensen on the Little Gull.*

[Dvergmaagen (*Larus minutus*) som Ynglefugl paa Klægbanken i Ringkjøbing Fjord. Af Roar Christensen. Vid. Med. nat. For. Kbhvn. 1905, pp. 245-249, pls. vi., vii.]

This paper records the breeding of the Little Gull in some numbers in Ringkjøbing Fjord near colonies of *Larus ridibundus* and *Sterna cantiaca*.

72. *Clark on new Birds from St. Vincent.*

[1. Preliminary Descriptions of Three new Birds from St. Vincent, West Indies. By A. H. Clark. Proc. Biol. Soc. Washington, xviii. p. 61 (1905).

2. Description of a new *Euphonia* from the Southern West Indies. *Id. t. c.* p. 19.]

In the first paper three new birds from St. Vincent, W.I., are characterized as *Holoquiscalus dispar*, *Buteo antillarum* (which occurs in other islands also), and *Urubitinga anthracina cancrivora*. In the second paper the form of *Euphonia flavifrons* from St. Vincent is separated as a "subspecies" under the name of *E. f. viscivora*.

73. *De Vis on new Fossil Birds from Australia.*

[A Contribution to the Knowledge of the Extinct Avifauna of Australia. By C. W. De Vis. Ann. Queensl. Mus. no. 6, pp. 1-25.]

Mr. De Vis describes a collection (of about 200 specimens of bones) made by Prof. Gregory during his examination of the deposits round Lake Eyre in 1902, and believed by him to be of Pleiocene or early Pleistocene age. About 108 of these shewed characters sufficient for identification, the others were fragmentary.

The new species now described and figured from this series are: *Tupaëtus lacertosus*, *Asturaëtus furcillatus*, and *Baza gracilis* (new Falconines); *Leucosarcia prævisa* (a new Pigeon); *Xenorhynchus nanus*, *Xenorhynchopsis tibialis*, and *X. minor* (new Storks); *Ibis conditus* (a new Ibis); *Archæocyenus lacustris* and *Chenopsis nanus* (new Swans);



*Biziura exhumata*, *Anas* (*Nettion*) *strenua*, *Nyroca effodiata*, and *Nettopus eyrensis* (new Ducks); *Pelecanus grandiceps*, *P. proacus*, *Plotus laticeps*, *Phalacrocorax gregorii*, and *P. venustus* (new Pelecanidæ); and *Dromæus patricius* (a new Emu).

It is evident, therefore, that the former and larger Lake Eyre had a more varied and abundant avifauna than the present lake.

#### 74. *De Vis's Ornithological Notes.*

["Ornithological." By C. W. De Vis. Ann. Queensl. Mus. no. 6, p. 41.]

Mr. De Vis writes on *Gerygone flavida* Ramsay, which he thinks has been incorrectly assigned in the Cat. of Birds (iv. p. 330) to *G. personata* Gould. He also describes as new *Sericornis tyrannula* and *Acanthiza modesta* from Charleville (*Broadbent*), and *A. katherina* and *Pachycephala mestoni* from the Bellenden Ker Range, Queensland.

#### 75. *Duncker on the Migration of Birds.*

[Wanderzug der Vögel. Von Hans Duncker. Jena, 1905. 8vo. Pp. i-ix, 1-118; 2 maps.]

This pamphlet consists of an essay on the migration and lines of flight of birds, which obtained a prize at Göttingen. It reviews the whole subject under two heads—how the birds go and why they go,—and discusses the views of all the best-known authors. Moreover, it brings under consideration the height at which birds fly (as much as 1000 m.) and the speed of their flight (not over 100 km. per hour), the effect of meteorological conditions on migration, and so forth.

#### 76. *Harting's 'Recreations of a Naturalist.'*

[Recreations of a Naturalist. By James Edmund Harting. With eighty-one illustrations. London: T. Fisher Unwin, 1906. 8vo. Pp. i-xvi, 1-433. Price 16s. net.]

Mr. Harting is one of those writers who have the faculty of always interesting their readers, and we have had great pleasure in making use of the opportunity now afforded us of renewing our acquaintance with the essays contained in

this volume, reprinted from 'The Field' and elsewhere. A large proportion of them treat of birds, and the author's favourite pursuit of hawking naturally leads the way, while the Norfolk Broads, the mud-flats of Pagham Harbour of old, Japanese art as regards birds, migration, shooting, Swan-apping, decoys, and so forth, furnish themes for the remainder. The illustrations are mainly from the original articles, but several have been specially prepared for this book.

77. *Hellmayr on the Birds of Trinidad.*

[On the Birds of the Island of Trinidad. By C. E. Hellmayr. Nov. Zool. xiii. pp. 1-60 (1906).]

The birds of Trinidad were ably discussed by Mr. Chapman in 1894 (*cf.* 'Ibis,' 1894, p. 436). The extensive collections forwarded by Mr. André and his collectors to the Zoological Museum of Tring from various parts of the island, and the specimens lately sent to the same institution by Dr. Percy Rendall from the districts of Savannah Grande and Tacarigua, have induced Mr. Hellmayr to undertake a fresh review of this attractive Ornis, which, according to his views, embraces 198 species and subspecies. Of these, the following eight are described as new or are provided with new names:—*Pachysylvia aurantiifrons saturata*, *Mionectes oleagineus pallidiventris*, *Pitangus sulphuratus trinitatis*, *Dysithamnus affinis andrei*, *Veniliornis kirki continentalis*, *Celeus elegans leotardi*, *Piaya cayana insulana*, and *Hydranassa tricolor rufimentum*. A new generic term, *Sclateria*, is provided for *Heteroenemis*, which is said to be "preoccupied."

The author is a vigorous disciple of the new school, and, like his associates, prefers "priority" to the rules of grammar and common sense. His "splitting" propensities may be estimated by the characters assigned to his *Veniliornis kirki continentalis*, which are simply "much smaller"! At the same time Mr. Hellmayr is a diligent and accurate worker, and has taken good advantage of the opportunities he has had of studying the rare American types in the Museums which he has visited.

Mr. Hellmayr is also an industrious student of locality, as all authors should be who make subspecies, and gives us much information on the subject. He states that what are commonly called "Trinidad skins" in the trade are probably made by the Warran Indians of the Venezuelan territory south of the delta of the Orinoco, and he is of opinion that the remarkable Humming-bird *Hylonympha macrocerca* of Gould comes from this district, and not from "Northern Brazil," wherein he is in all probability correct.

78. *The International Catalogue of Scientific Literature.*

[International Catalogue of Scientific Literature. Second Annual Issue—N. Zoology: Part III. Vertebrata, May 1905; and Third Annual Issue—Zoology: Part III. Vertebrata, November 1905.]

In a previous notice ('Ibis,' 1904, p. 645) we gave some account of the origin and scope of this important work, and ventured to offer some criticisms on the portion of the volume (N. Zoology) which relates to our special subject. We have now before us the second and third "Annual Issues" of the corresponding volumes, and will make a few remarks on them.

In the "Second Annual Issue," Part iii. "Vertebrata," we are pleased to see that running titles, which were absent in the "First Annual Issue," are introduced, so that it is now possible to distinguish the pages relating to "Pisces," "Aves," &c., without difficulty. The portion relating to "Aves" consists of 182 pages. It comprehends, *firstly*, a list of the titles of the works relating to birds in the alphabetical order of the authors' names, and, *secondly*, the same titles arranged according to their subjects. These subjects are much too numerous, and, in our opinion, in many cases badly selected. They should have been reduced by one-half at least. Moreover, it is quite unnecessary to reprint the whole title of the work under every heading of the Subject-Index. The author's name and a reference to the general list of titles would have been quite sufficient, and this plan (which is that of the 'Zoological Record') would have saved many pages of print. Under the present system some of the titles are given at full length four or five times over.

The "Third Annual Issue" of "Zoology, Part iii. Vertebrata," is stated to have been completed in MS. in June 1905, and is dated "November 1905"\*. It is arranged on the same plan as the second. "Aves" occupy 142 pages. The preliminary list of titles is numbered throughout (which was not done in the "Second Issue"), and shews that 1260 books and memoirs are catalogued. These are mostly publications of 1903, though some of 1902 and 1904 are also entered.

Looking (casually) through the two volumes we certainly find fewer misentries and mistakes than in the "First Annual Issue." At the same time it is not difficult to detect errors which might have been easily avoided if the precaution had been taken of having the proofs read through by an "ornithological expert." It could hardly be expected that the "Referees" (Prof. Minchin and Mr. J. T. Cunningham), good men as they are, could understand all the technical terms of ornithology, but further aid could easily have been obtained.

One of the most useful parts of the last two volumes to the working ornithologist is the "List of New Genera and Species." But instead of quoting the exact book and page where these new terms are to be found, the only reference supplied is a (mysterious) number, which gives the place where the work in question is to be found entered in the Authors' Catalogue. Thus another index must be sought and searched in order to obtain the desired information, which might just as easily have been given direct.

We conclude with a most satisfactory announcement which is contained in the last Report of the Council of the Zoological Society. It is obviously a great waste of time and money to have *two* Records of the year's zoological work going on at the same time—one in the 'International Catalogue of Scientific Literature' and the other in the 'Zoological Record.' Beginning with the present year, therefore, the Council of the Zoological Society and the

\* The copy in the Zoological Society's Library is marked as received in January 1906.

International Council have agreed that the two Records shall, at any rate provisionally, be amalgamated, as described in the following paragraph of the Zoological Society's Report:—

“The annual issues of the ‘Zoological Record’ have long been regarded as amongst the most important services to Zoological Science rendered by the Society. The magnitude of the task has been increasing annually, and in recent years the Zoology Volumes of the International Catalogue of Scientific Literature, issued by an International Bureau under the auspices of the Royal Society, have to a certain extent covered the same ground. The Council have arranged for a provisional amalgamation of the two undertakings for a period of five years, beginning with the literature for the year 1906, to be published in 1907, and hope that the union will lead to increased efficiency and economy. The ‘Zoological Record’ Committee will remain responsible for the scientific side of the work, and the conjoint volumes will be issued with numbers and title pages in series with the existing ‘Zoological Record,’ so that, at the end of the period of five years, the Zoological Society may resume its independent control, if the amalgamation be not successful.”

#### 79. *Journal of the Federated Malay States Museums.*

[Journal of the Federated Malay States Museums. Taiping and Kuala Lumpur. Vol. i. nos. 1, 2, 3. Jan.–July 1905.]

This newly-established Journal of the Federated States in the Malay Peninsula contains several articles on birds by Mr. Herbert C. Robinson, the lately appointed Curator of the Selangor State Museum, which merit our attention.

In the first number Mr. Robinson gives a List of a collection of Birds from Negri Sembilan, which has been already noticed (*‘Ibis,’* 1905, p. 284). In the second number he commences a useful List of the Birds at present known to inhabit the Malay Peninsula south of the Isthmus of Kra. He begins with the Pigeons, of which he enumerates 21 species as occurring in the district, and adds various remarks about exact localities and other particulars.

In the third number the descriptions of *Myiophonus*



*robinsoni* Grant (Bull. B. O. C. xv. p. 69) and *Arboricola campbelli* Robinson (ibid. p. 28, and 'Ibis,' 1905, p. 165, pl. iv.) are reprinted as being of new Malayan species.

#### 80. Judd on the Quails, Grouse, and Turkeys of the U.S.

[(1) The Bobwhite and other Quails of the United States in their Economic Relations. By S. D. Judd. Bull. Biol. Survey, No. 21. Washington, 1905.

(2) The Grouse and Wild Turkeys of the United States, and their Economic Value. *Id. op. cit.* No. 24.]

These two pamphlets, prepared by Mr. Judd, an Assistant in the Biological Survey section of the Department of Agriculture of the U.S. Government, give a methodical and well-written account of the Gallinaceous Birds belonging to the several groups specified in their titles. The economical relations of the birds are specially commented upon, and much information is given as to their food, the exact nature of which has been determined by a careful examination of their stomachs. It is shown that all these game-birds devour large quantities of insects, and are thus of advantage to agriculture. The "Bobwhite" (*Ortyx virginianus*), however, is presumably a seed-eater, more than 50 per cent. of its food being found to consist of seeds. Many of these seeds are those of injurious plants with which the farmer is constantly at war. Here again the "Bobwhite" is the farmer's friend. At the same time this bird is valuable as an article of diet. Its flesh is stated to be "juicy, tender, delicately flavoured, easily digested, and nutritious."

In the same way the economical value of Grouse and Turkeys is shown in the second pamphlet, in which the essential part that many of these birds play in checking the increase of noxious weeds and insects is enlarged upon.

#### 81. McGregor's Notes on Philippine Birds.

[(1) Birds from Mindoro and small adjacent Islands, and (2) Notes on Three rare Luzon Birds. By Richard C. McGregor. Bureau of Gov. Lab., No. 34. Manila, 1905.]

Mr. McGregor, the Collector of Natural History specimens

for the Government Laboratories at Manila, continues his work (see above, p. 200) and gives us an account of the birds met with during an expedition in the northern part of Mindoro in March, April, and May, 1905. Short field-notes are added, and two species (*Chætura dubia* and *Edoliosoma elusum*) are provided with new names. Lists of the birds obtained on some small islands near Mindoro are given, in the course of which *Chibia worcesteri* is described as new.

The second paper records the existence of *Antigone sharpei*, *Botaurus stellaris*, and *Zosterornis nigrocapitatus* in Luzon. A series of 18 black photographic plates illustrates the first paper and amongst other objects contains several views of the nest of *Artamus leucorhynchus*, a species found "abundant near Balete" and breeding in April.

### 82. *McGregor and Worcester on Philippine Birds.*

[A Hand-list of the Birds of the Philippine Islands. By Richard C. McGregor and Dean C. Worcester. Bull. Bureau Gov. Lab. Manila, 1906. 8vo. 122 pp.]

This very useful List of the Philippine Birds, so far as they are yet known, was projected by Mr. Worcester four years ago, but has been hindered in its progress by his official duties. When Mr. McGregor became Collector of Natural History in the Philippines, the matter was handed over to him, together with a MS. on the same subject prepared by Dr. F. S. Bourne and Mr. Worcester, from which it was hoped that some further information might be obtained. When Mr. McGregor returned to the U.S. in August 1905, the memoir was finally edited and seen through the press by Mr. Worcester.

The Preface, dated at Manila by Mr. Worcester in September 1895, contains a short sketch of the Zoological Divisions of the Philippine group, which, according to his views, are twelve in number. "While these twelve divisions are by no means zoologically equivalent, each has its highly-characteristic species and forms a fairly natural division."

The systematic list follows the arrangement of the 'Hand-list' of Dr. Bowdler Sharpe, and gives references to the

descriptions of all species yet recorded as met with in the Philippine Area, including the Palawan Group. The list of this Avifauna published by Mr. Worcester and Dr. Bourne in 1898 \* included 243 genera and 596 species. The present list raises the total number to 284 genera and 691 species, besides a few more not yet identified.

As, however, will be manifest from Mr. Ogilvie-Grant's paper in the present number of 'The Ibis,' it is obvious that there is still much more work to be done in the exploration of this attractive Avifauna.

### 83. Marshall on the Anatomy of *Phalacroptilus*.

[A Study of the Anatomy of *Phalacroptilus* Ridgway. By Margaret E. Marshall. Proc. Am. Phil. Soc. xlv. pp. 213-240 (1905).]

This is an exhaustive memoir on the anatomy of a rare and little-known North-American Goatsucker, *Phalacroptilus nuttalli*, based on two female specimens obtained in Texas. It is well illustrated by three plates with numerous figures, and is "intended to be the first of a series" dealing with the "Caprimulgi," *i. e.* the three families Caprimulgidae, Steatornithidae, and Podargidae. When the other genera of these families have been treated in a similar way the results may be of considerable systematic value. At present they appear to be rather meagre. It is not even shown how *Phalacroptilus* differs from *Caprimulgus*.

### 84. Martorelli on the Variations of *Dendrocopus major*.

[Il *Dendrocopus major* Linn. e le sue variazioni. Nota ornitologica del Socio Prof. Giacinto Martorelli. Att. Soc. Ital. di Sc. Nat. xlvii. Milano, 1906. 14 pp.]

The Turati Collection at Milan contains a good series of the Great Spotted Woodpecker (*Dendrocopus major*) and the allied forms. Dr. Martorelli has used these specimens and others in his own collection as the material for his present memoir. This widely-extended species has been divided by Dr. Hartert (Nov. Zool. vii. p. 530) into some 15 or 16 sub-species, but Dr. Martorelli is of opinion that in certain of

\* See Pr. U.S. N. Mus. p. 549.

these forms the differences pointed out may be merely individual. Students of this group of birds should not fail to consult Dr. Martorelli's criticisms.

#### 85. Mearns on new Philippine Birds.

[Descriptions of a new Genus and Eleven new Species of Philippine Birds. By Edgar A. Mearns. Pr. Biol. Soc. Wash. xviii. p. 1 (1905).]

*Leonardia woodi* is a new genus and species of Timeliine birds from Mindanao. The other species described in this paper are *Pseudotharrhaleus griseipectus*, *Brachypteryx mindanensis*, *Macranous mindanensis montanus*, *Aethopyga boltoni* (all from Mt. Apo, Mindanao), *Cyrtostomus dinagatensis* (from Dinagat), *Merula kelleri* (from Mt. Apo), *Gerygone rhizophora* (from Zamboanga), *Anthreptes cagayanensis* (from Cagayan), *Muscicapula montigena* and *Pardaliparus elegans mindanensis* (from Mt. Apo). These are all out of a collection made during a year's residence in Mindanao by Major Mearns and his friends, who have contributed a large general collection of Philippine Birds to the U.S. National Museum.

#### 86. Oberholser on the Genus *Bleda*.

[The Avian Genus *Bleda* and some of its Allies. By Harry E. Oberholser. Smiths. Misc. Coll. iii. pp. 149-172 (1905).]

We agree with Mr. Oberholser that the group of Pycnonotidæ called *Bleda*, or until recently *Xenocichla*, is a "very heterogeneous assemblage," and requires close study and rearrangement. But whether he has improved matters by creating eleven new generic terms and merely giving lists of the species is a matter of opinion. It would have been better if every species had been described, or if, at any rate, Mr. Oberholser had stated what are the species that he knows from a personal examination of specimens. But there is no clue to this.

Besides the already established genera *Trichophorus*, *Alophoixus*, *Bleda*, *Bæopogon*, *Ixonotus*, *Phyllostrephus*, *Chlorocichla*, *Stelgidillas*, *Andropadus*, and *Eurillas*, Mr. Oberholser proposes the following new generic terms:—*Idiocichla* (type *Trichophorus notatus*), *Thescelocichla* (type *Phyllostrephus*

*leucopleurus*), *Atimastillas* (type *Hæmatornis flavicollis*), *Prosporphocichla* (type *Phyllostrephus scandens*), *Argaleocichla* (type *Trichophorus icterinus*), *Thapsinillas* (type *Criniger affinis*), *Acritillas* (type *Criniger ictericus*), *Arizelocichla* (type *Xenocichla nigriceps*), *Calyptocichla* (type *Criniger serinus*), *Charitillas* (type *Andropadus gracilis*), and *Stelgidocichla* (type *Andropadus latirostris*). *Phosphorocichla scandens acedis* (from Gaboon) is described as a new subspecies.

The paper concludes with a useful key to the genera treated.

### 87. Ogawa on Birds from the Japanese Islands.

[Notes on Mr. Alan Owston's Collection of Birds from the Islands lying between Kiusiu and Formosa. By M. Ogawa. Ann. Zool. Jap. v. part 4 (1905).]

Two taxidermists of the well-known naturalist Mr. Alan Owston, of Yokohama, visited the long chain of islands lying between Kiusiu and the north point of Formosa during the period from May to December 1904, and made collections of birds on ten of them. The entire series thus amassed consists of 1669 well-preserved skins, referred by Mr. Ogawa to 124 species and subspecies, of which an account is now given. Three of these are described as new species (*Geocichla major*, *Picus owstoni*, and *Nannocnus ijimai*) and three as new subspecies (*Merula celænops yakushimensis*, *Zosterops japonicus insularis*, and *Corvus macrorhynchus osai*). Besides these, two species are added to the Avifauna of the Japanese Empire—*Merops ornatus* and *Spilornis pallidus*, both visitors from the south. But by far the most interesting fact recorded in this paper is the re-discovery of *Garrulus lidlthi*, of which 12 specimens were obtained by Mr. Owston's collectors in the island of Amami-Oshima. This famous species of Jay had been lost sight of ever since its original description by Bonaparte in 1850, and no one knew whence it came. Mr. Ogawa concludes his memoir with a very useful table of all the birds known at present from the chain of islands between Japan and Formosa, giving the exact



localities for each of them. Coloured figures are added of *Garrulus lidthi*, *Picus owstoni*, and *Nannocnus ijimai*.

### 88. *Oustalet on Birds from Lake Tchad.*

[Catalogue des Oiseaux rapportés par la Mission Chari-Lac Tchad. Par M. Oustalet. Bull. Mus. d'Hist. Nat. x. pp. 131 et 536 (1904), et xi. p. 10 (1905).]

This is a list of the birds collected by the French expedition to Lake Tchad and the Shari River under the leadership of M. Chevalier. One hundred and seven species are enumerated, mostly well-known West-African forms, but *Cinnyris decorsei* is described as new.

### 89. *Petényi's 'Ornithological Fragments.'*

[Ornithologische Fragmente aus den Handschriften von Johann Salamon von Petényi. Deutsch bearbeitet von Titus Csörgey. Mit einer Einleitung von Otto Herman. Gera-Untermhaus, 1905. Pp. i-xxxvi, 1-400.]

Herr Csörgey gives us here a German translation of the ornithological notes of Herr Petényi, once Curator of the Hungarian National Museum, who appears to have intended to write a full account of the birds of his country. There were considerable gaps in the manuscript, where possibly notes had been lost, but the portions left are quite sufficient to shew the value of the author's work. Born in 1799, he seems to have been well acquainted with the writings of the German ornithologists of his time, and to have been an ardent student of classification, as well as of all other matters relating to Hungarian Birds.

### 90. *Pratt's 'Two Years in New Guinea.'*

[Two Years among New Guinea Cannibals—a Naturalist's Sojourn among the Aborigines of unexplored New Guinea. By A. E. Pratt. London: Seeley & Co., 1906. 1 vol., 8vo. Price 16s. net.]

Although we are aware that some of Mr. Pratt's stories have been severely criticized, we think that most Naturalists will read the narrative of his adventures among the aborigines of British New Guinea with interest; but it is a pity that he

does not tell us more about the birds and other animals of that strange land. Mr. Pratt's main object was to search for Lepidopterous Insects\*, and in this he was very successful; but he also obtained a series of Paradise-birds, and devotes a short chapter to this subject, with a list of the species met with and a few remarks on their habits. The prize-bird of the district visited seems to be *Paradisornis rudolphi*, but *Astrapia stephanie* and *Loria lorie* are also there. "Bird-of-Paradise soup," we are told, is "truly abominable."

### 91. *Pycraft on the Position of the Eurylæmidæ.*

[Contributions to the Osteology of Birds.—Part VII. Eurylæmidæ; with Remarks on the Systematic Position of the Group. By W. P. Pycraft, F.Z.S., M.B.O.U. P.Z.S. 1905, vol. ii. pp. 29–56.]

Forbes and Garrod are our principal authorities on the systematic position of the anomalous family Eurylæmidæ. They were of opinion that the peculiarities of this group, especially as regards the retention of the plantar vinculum, were so great as to necessitate its separation as a main division of the Order Passeres, which might be termed "Desmodactyli," while all the other Passeres were designated "Eleutherodactyli." This proposal has met with more or less acceptance up to the present time, and in the fourteenth volume of the 'Catalogue of Birds' the Eurylæmidæ were placed by Selater at the end of the Oligomyodian Passeres as an aberrant group.

In the present paper Mr. Pycraft treats of the osteology of the Eurylæmidæ at full length, and comes to the conclusion that it is doubtful whether so wide a separation of this group from the other Passeres as has been proposed by Garrod and Forbes is maintainable. "The survival of the plantar vinculum is not so very surprising." Mr. Pycraft enlarges upon the many resemblances between the Eurylæmidæ and the Cotingidæ, and thinks it quite possible that future investigations may prove that the former are entitled to no higher position than a subfamily of the latter group.

\* See Mr. Bethune Baker's paper on Mr. Pratt's collections of insects in Nov. Zool. xi. p. 367.

But for the present, at any rate, we think it would not be advisable to alter the *status* of this well-marked group of the Oriental Avifauna.

### 92. *Pycraft on the Skeleton of the Musk-Duck.*

[Notes on a Skeleton of the Musk-Duck, *Biziura lobata*, with Special Reference to Skeletal Characters evolved in relation to the Diving Habits of this Bird. By W. P. Pycraft, A.L.S., F.Z.S. Journ. Linn. Soc., Zool. xxix. p. 396 (1906).]

The skeleton of this anomalous Australian Duck is described and figured. The author comes to the conclusion that *Biziura* and the other stiff-tailed *Erismaturinæ* of Count Salvadori "should be merged in the *Fuligininæ*," and that "the genera *Tachyeres*, *Harelda*, *Histrionicus*, *Ædemia*, *Heniconetta*, *Somateria*, and *Erionetta* might well be placed together in a separate subfamily—the *Somateriinæ*.

### 93. *Ralfe's 'Birds of the Isle of Man.'*

[The Birds of the Isle of Man. By P. G. Ralfe. Edinburgh, 1906. 8vo. Pp. i-xiii, 1-321. Price 18s. net.]

The Isle of Man, within a comparatively limited area, furnishes much that is of interest to ornithologists, more of whom have probably explored its wilds than Mr. Ralfe imagines, though he is quite right in thinking it full time that a comprehensive work on the Birds was published. The author's life-long knowledge of the island not only ensures the accuracy of his records of the occurrences of the various species, but also enables him to give accounts of their habits, while he has had the advantage of the assistance of several competent local observers.

We are much pleased with the book, and especially the excellent sketch of the Physical Features of Man, which reminds us of our own experiences there; while the History of Manx Ornithology, the Bibliography, and so forth are welcome additions to the detailed list. Most visitors cross to the island in summer, so that the winter notes and those on migrants are particularly valuable; but the comparisons instituted between the avifauna and that of the adjacent

countries are also a feature of the book. The past history of more than one species is of the greatest interest; and in this connection we may mention the White-tailed Eagle, the Raven, the Chough, the Bittern, the Black and Red Grouse, and the "Maux" Shearwater (exterminated by 1827). There are two maps and fifty-one excellent illustrations, such as we are accustomed to expect in Mr. David Douglas's publications.

94. *Reiser's 'Ornis Balcanica,'* vol. iii.

[Materialen zu einer Ornis Balcanica, herausgegeben vom Bosnisch-herzegowinischen Landes-Museum in Sarajevo.—III. Griechenland und die griechischen Inseln (mit ausnahme von Creta). Von Othmar Reiser, Kustos am Bosn-herzeg. Landes-Museum. Wien, 1905. 1 vol. sm. folio. Pp. 590.]

Ten years ago the Balkan Peninsula was, ornithologically speaking, one of the least-known portions of Europe. Thanks to the energetic work of our Foreign Member, Dr. Othmar Reiser, this sad condition of affairs has quite passed away. A goodly series of four volumes was planned by him some years ago for the illustration of the 'Ornis Balcanica,' and we have now the third of them before us. The first volume, relating to the Birds of Bulgaria, was published in 1894 (see 'Ibis,' 1895, p. 289); the second, on the Birds of Montenegro, in 1896 (see 'Ibis,' 1897, p. 280); and the third, with an account of the Birds of Greece, appeared at the close of last year. There remains only the fourth volume, on the Birds of Bosnia and Herzegovina, to complete the series.

Dr. Reiser, although he enjoyed the potent assistance of the veteran Dr. Krueper, did not sit still in his Museum at Sarajevo to compile his volume on the birds of Greece from other persons' notes, but took the field himself to explore its most interesting avifauna, and made three expeditions for that purpose in 1894, 1897, and 1898, besides employing the assistance of many excellent collectors in different places. The result was a series of 1617 specimens, referable to 294 species.

Dr. Reiser commences the present volume with a narrative of his three collecting-tours in Greece, in the course of which he visited nearly every part of that famous land and its islands, except Crete, which still remains almost ornithologically unknown. This is followed by a *résumé* of the previous literature on the subject, and by a complete list of the 312 species of Grecian Birds now known, in which the vernacular name in modern Greek and the first observer of each species in Greece are given. The main portion, or "Spezieller Teil," of this volume of the 'Ornis Balcanica,' however, is devoted to a series of notes on the birds of Greece and its Islands, arranged in systematic order and occupying some 450 pages, which let in a flood of light upon the subject, and demand the careful attention of all students of European Ornithology.

Dr. Reiser, we are pleased to observe, does not find it necessary to make many new "subspecies," and employs trinomials only in exceptional cases. Amongst his many most interesting observations, we may notice the breeding of the Snow-Finch (*Montifringilla nivalis*) on Mount Vardusia, in Phthiotis, which has been already alluded to in this journal (see 'Ibis,' 1904, p. 226), and his explanations concerning *Parus lugubris græcus* (a southern form of *P. lugubris*) and *Dendrocopus medius sancti-johannis*, of both of which good coloured figures are given. A chart of Greece and its Islands, shewing Dr. Reiser's routes during his three expeditions, concludes this excellent volume, which is certainly one of the most important contributions that have been made for many years to our knowledge of Palæartic Ornithology.

#### 95. *Ridgway on new Genera and Species.*

[New Genera of Tyrannidæ and Turdidæ, and new Forms of Tanageridæ and Turdidæ. By Robert Ridgway. Proc. Biol. Soc. Washington, xviii. p. 211.]

*Platytriccus* is a new generic name for *Platyrrhynchus cancruma* and other species of that genus which Mr. Ridgway separates from *P. rostratus*. *Haplocichla*, gen. nov., is based



on *Turdus aurantius* Gm., of Jamaica, which Selater and Salvin (Nomencl. p. 2) have placed in *Mimocichla*. A new *Chlorospingus* from the Volcan de Irazu, Costa Rica, is named *C. zeledoni*, and a new *Phænicothraupis* from the same country *P. alfaroana*. *Mimocichla rubripes eremita* is a new subspecies from Swan Island, Caribbean Sea, and *Catharus frantzii omiltemensis* a new subspecies from South-western Mexico.

#### 96. Riley on Three new Venezuelan Birds.

[Descriptions of Three new Birds from the Merida Region of Venezuela. By J. H. Riley. Proc. Biol. Soc. Washington, xviii. p. 219.]

The three new birds from the Merida district of Venezuela are designated *Leptasthenura montivagans*, *Haplospiza montosa*, and *Pheucticus uropygialis meridensis*. The last (allied to *P. uropygialis*) is based on a single specimen (!).

#### 97. Shelley's 'Birds of Africa.'

[The Birds of Africa, comprising all the Species which occur in the Ethiopian Region. By G. E. Shelley, F.Z.S., F.R.G.S., &c. Vol. V. pt. 1. London: R. H. Porter, 1906. Price 31s. 6d.]

In the second part of his fourth volume (see 'Ibis,' 1905, p. 641) Capt. Shelley finished his account of the African Weaver-birds. In the present part of the fifth volume he gives us the history of the species of the three families Oriolidæ, Sturnidæ, and Corvidæ found within the limits of the Ethiopian Region.

Of the African Orioles only nine species are allowed as valid. *Oriolus meneliki* of Blundell and Lovat is united to *O. monachus*, *O. rolleti* of Salvadori to *O. larvatus*, and *O. latior* of Sharpe to *O. brachyrhynchus*. The Starlings of Africa are much more numerous; Captain Shelley registers fifty-seven species, most of which belong to the beautiful group commonly called "Glossy Starlings." The number of genera into which these birds have been divided is rather reduced under Capt. Shelley's treatment, and we cannot but think that this is judicious. The thirteen chestnut-winged forms, which have been hitherto separated into no less than six

genera, are now included under one generic term, *Onychognathus*. Whether *Hypocolius*, however, should be placed among the Sturnidæ is, we think, a little doubtful. Capt. Shelley does not give us any reasons for giving this position to what is an anomalous form, although it is certainly a true Passerine bird and has nothing to do with *Colius*.

Crows are not so plentiful in the Ethiopian fauna as Starlings. The author admits only nine species, of which the most remarkable are the two 'bare-headed' *Picathartæ* of West Africa.

Seven well-drawn plates illustrate this volume, and represent the following species:—*Oriolus crassirostris*, *Cinnyricinclus femoralis*, *Cosmopsarus unicolor*, *Lamprocolius splendidus*, *L. cupreicaudus*, *L. purpureiceps*, *L. melanogaster*, *Spreo shelleyi*, *Onychognathus blythi*, *Pæoptera stuhlmanni*, and *P. kenricki*.

#### 98. Stone on Birds from Lower California.

[On a Collection of Birds and Mammals from the Colorado Delta, Lower California. By Witmer Stone. With Field-Notes by Samuel N. Rhoads. Proc. Acad. Nat. Sc. Phil. 1905, pp. 672-690.]

Mr. Rhoads's trip in the delta of the Colorado River was made early in 1905, and resulted in a collection of birds and mammals, which are described in Mr. Stone's paper. The 258 specimens of birds are referred to 49 species, besides which about 50 others were observed by Mr. Rhoads, who contributes a certain number of field-notes. *Pipilo aberti*, *Phainopepla nitens*, and *Auriparus flaviceps* are amongst the rarer species in the list.

#### 99. Stone on Birds from British East Africa.

[On a Collection of Birds from British East Africa obtained by Mr. George L. Harrison, Jr. *Id. t. c.* pp. 755-782.]

This is an account of a collection of birds made by Mr. Harrison in British East Africa in 1904, and deposited in the Museum of the Academy of Natural Sciences in Philadelphia. The collection was made by Mr. Harrison and his taxidermist at Nairobi, Fort Hall, Naivasha, on the

Guaso Nyiro, and in other localities in the central part of the Protectorate. It contains examples of 212 species, one of which is believed to be new and is described by Mr. Stone as *Cisticola harrisoni*.

100. *Thayer and Bangs on the Birds of the Pearl Islands.*

[The Mammals and Birds of the Pearl Islands, Bay of Panama. By John E. Thayer and Outram Bangs. Bull. Mus. Comp. Zool. xlv. no. 8 (1905).]

The authors describe the birds collected on the Pearl Islands, in the middle of the Bay of Panama, by Mr. W. W. Brown, Jr., during a second \* visit in 1904. The birds are in most cases closely allied to the corresponding forms of the adjacent mainland; but one of the Humming-birds (*Phaethornis hyalinus*) and an Ant-Wren (*Formicivora alticincta*) are distinct species peculiar to these islands. Ninety-four forms are enumerated, of which two (*Myiobius naevius fufurosus* and *Tanagra cana dilucida*) are now separated as "subspecies."

101. *Thayer and Bangs on the Birds of Panama.*

[Vertebrata from the Savana of Panama. Aves. *Iid. t. c.* no. 12 (1906).]

The "Thayer Expedition" of 1904 spent a month near the city of Panama, and made a collection of Vertebrates on the adjoining savanna. The birds obtained on this occasion are referred by the authors to eighty-six species, of which three are described as new—*Momotus conexus*, *Tyrannulus reguloides panamensis*, and *Tiaris olivacea dissita*.

102. *Van Oort on the Red-crested Pochard.*

[Ueber das Vorkommen von *Netta rufina* (Pall.) in Holland. Von Dr. E. D. Van Oort. Notes Leyd. Mus. xxvi. pp. 196-199.]

The author records a male of this Duck in summer plumage from Nieuwkoop in South Holland, August 8th, 1905, being the tenth example known from that country.

\* Cf. Bangs, 'Auk,' xviii. pp. 24-32 (1901).

103. *Van Oort on a new Bird-of-Paradise.*

[On a new Bird-of-Paradise. By Dr. E. D. Van Oort. Notes Leyd. Mus. xxviii. p. 1 (1906).]

Heer Van Oort, who has succeeded Dr. Finsch in the care of the birds of the Leyden Museum, describes, under the name of *Neoparadisea ruysi*, a new Paradise-bird related to *Paradisea* and *Diphylloides*, from a specimen presented to the Museum by Mr. T. H. Ruys. It was obtained by native hunters in 1905, near Warsambo, on the west coast of the Bay of Geelvink.

Heer Ruys also brought home a skin of the rare *Diphylloides gulielmi-tertii*.

## XXXIV.—Obituary.

CANON TRISTRAM, DR. JEAN CABANIS, and DR. VICTOR FATIO.

WITH deep regret we record the death of the Rev. HENRY BAKER TRISTRAM, F.R.S., Canon of Durham, one of the founders and original members of the British Ornithologists' Union. Canon Tristram was well known as an Author, a Traveller, a Naturalist, and an Antiquarian. It is, of course, to his work in Natural History that we shall mainly allude on the present occasion.

Canon Tristram was born on May 11th, 1822, at Eglington, near Alnwick, the large country parish of which his father, Dr. H. B. Tristram, was at that time Vicar. He was educated at Durham School, and afterwards at Lincoln College, Oxford, where he graduated in 1844, taking a second class in Classics.

In 1845 Tristram was ordained Deacon by the Bishop of Exeter, and Priest in the following year, having been appointed Curate of Morton Bishop. But, shewing somewhat alarming signs of a weak chest, he was ordered abroad, and passed two years (1847–1849) as naval and military chaplain in Bermuda. In the latter year he was nominated Rector of Castle Eden, in Durham, and in 1860 Master of Greatham